

U.S. Appln. No. 10/816,140
Reply to Office Action dated March 17, 2006

PATENT
450100-05009

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS.

Claims 21-29 are pending. Claims 21, 24, 26 and 28, which are independent, are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

The Abstract, which was objected to, has been amended thereby obviating the objection.

Claims 21-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 21, 24, 26 and 28 have been amended thereby obviating the rejection.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 21, 22 and 24-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,091,423 to Shiraishi, et al. (hereinafter, merely "Shiraishi") in view of Multimedia Builder by Media Chance (hereinafter, merely "Multimedia Builder").

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Claim 21 recites, *inter alia*:

"A special effect device...comprising:

address signal generating means for generating a readout address signal of said picture signals stored in said frame buffer so that the picture signals will be output to each of a plurality of corresponding triangular areas of a preset size fractionated from said picture signals stored in said frame buffer,

wherein said address signal generating means converts a polar coordinate system of said picture signals to a rectangular coordinate system." (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicant, Shiraishi relates to an image transformation system for giving a special effect in which an image changes into a transformed image as if it is looked through a kaleidoscope.

As understood by Applicant, Multimedia Builder relates to a group of image enhancing effects which can be applied to bitmap objects.

Applicant respectfully submits that Shiraishi and Multimedia Builder, taken either alone, or in combination, do not disclose the above features of claim 21. Specifically, Shiraishi and Multimedia Builder do not disclose a special effect device comprising an address signal generating means for generating a readout address signal of said picture signals stored in said frame buffer so that the picture signals will be output to each of a plurality of corresponding triangular areas of a preset size fractionated from said picture signals stored in said frame buffer, wherein said address signal generating means converts a polar coordinate system of said picture signals to a rectangular coordinate system, as recited in independent claim 21.

Furthermore, Applicant submits that Multimedia Builder is not prior art. Indeed www.MediaChance.com was copyrighted in 2000 but there is no evidence showing that the disclosure relied upon by the Office Action was disclosed at that time. Thus, Applicant traverses the rejection based on Multimedia Builder.

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Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claim 21 is patentable.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 21, independent claims 24, 26 and 28 are also believed to be patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the independent claims, discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

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Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any
overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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